

CHAPTER NO. 21

HOUSE BILL NO. 291

By Representatives Buck, Winningham

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 869

By Senator Burks

AN ACT to designate a certain segment of State Route 261 in Macon County as the "Harold G. Blankenship Memorial Highway".

WHEREAS, it is only fitting that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those special persons who, during their lifetimes, dedicated themselves to one of our most important professions - teaching, and who, through their knowledge, effective skills and love of young people, helped to shape the leaders of today and tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, Harold G. Blankenship was one such remarkable person whose exceptional service as an educator for 44 years has not been forgotten; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Blankenship always brought honor to himself, to his family, to the Macon County Schools and to the entire community; and

WHEREAS, even in retirement, Harold G. Blankenship still played an integral role in public service by serving as Homecoming Chairman for Macon County during the Statewide celebration in 1986, by writing a history of Macon County and by providing leadership in locating the county museum in the old Galen School; and

WHEREAS, Harold G. Blankenship faithfully served his Antioch Missionary Baptist Church as Deacon for 20 years and as recording secretary for 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Harold G. Blankenship also astutely served as a member of the Macon County Commission for approximately 30 years; his illustrious tenure on the Commission was highlighted by his meritorious service as a Budget Committee member and Chair Pro Tempore; and

WHEREAS, Harold G. Blankenship was a member of the Lafayette Odd Fellow Lodge for many years and a 32nd Degree Mason; and

WHEREAS, after having attended Western Kentucky State College, he graduated with a B. S. Degree from Middle Tennessee State College and accepted a teaching position at Beach Grove Elementary School in Macon County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Blankenship would later serve for many years as a teacher at Galen Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, he would also serve with distinction at Macon County High School for 44 years; the last 12 years of his tenure there were spent as Principal of Fairlane Elementary School and Macon County High School; and

WHEREAS, Harold G. Blankenship's active community service concluded when he and his wife, Rulene, served as Grand Marshals of the Macon County Christmas Parade and when he was elected to receive the Will Hall Sullivan Award in 1992; and

WHEREAS, the Macon County Commission and various prominent citizens have expressed a desire to name a certain segment of State Route 261 to honor the memory of this truly peerless servant of his fellow citizens, Mr. Harold G. Blankenship; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly most heartily concurs with this excellent proposal; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, that segment of State Route 261 from the northern corporate limits of the City of Lafayette in Macon County northerly to the Tennessee-Kentucky state boundary is hereby designated as the "Harold G. Blankenship Memorial Highway" as a lasting tribute to this outstanding educator, exemplary public servant and remarkable human being.

SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers or to affix suitable signs designating such segment of State Route 261 as the "Harold G. Blankenship Memorial Highway".

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: March 8, 1999



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 17th day of March 1999



DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR